

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph beginning at page 5, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention pertains to an apparatus and method for remote execution of software over a client-server network. Initially, both the server and client computers have Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) loaded as part of their operating system. The device manager of the server first ~~instanciates~~ instantiates a WMI CreateProcess object on the client computer. This will call an executable residing on the device manager. Within the client, the process is started, resulting in a call to an executable on the device manager. Back on the server computer, the executable on the device manager is called and launched on the managed device. Lastly, the executable starts and finishes on the client computer. Thereby, the present invention enables a network administrator to remotely execute code on a host of client computers from a central server over a network connection.

Please replace paragraph beginning at page 8, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

A device manager 201 runs on a server coupled to a network (LAN, MAN, WAN, or a virtual network). The device manager 201 comprises a collection of routines which acts as an interface for various drivers. The device manager 201 ~~instantiates~~ instantiates a WMI CreateProcess object on the target, step 203. The CreateProcess object calls an executable residing on the device manager 201. In other words, a Process object is created and then a Create method is executed. A managed device 202 resides on a computer coupled to the network. The process is started on the managed device in step 205 202, which calls an executable on the device manager 201. In turn, the executable on the device manager 201 is called in step 204. It is then launched on the managed device 202. Lastly, in step 206, the executable starts and finishes on the managed device 202.

Please replace the Abstract on page 20 with the following replacement

Abstract which is being submitted on a separate sheet: